BAND CONCERT.

U. S. NAVAL BAND,
Christiansted, Virgin Islands,
This Evening Nov. 7th. 1919.
First Class Musician A. Sebastian Forbes.
Conductor.

PROGRAM:

Part I.

March. The League Of Nations....Joseph F. Wagner.
Waltz. One, Two, Three, Four,....Arr, M. L. Lake.
Overture. Exuberance.....Al Hayes.
Tango. The Maurice....Silvio Hein.

Part II.

March. Liberty Lads..... Lee Orean Smith.
Instrumental Novelty. The Blue Flag ....Carrie-Jacobs Bond.
Overture. Lustpiel.....Keler Bela.
One Step. Take Me To My Alabam' ... Will A. Dillon & Harry Tobias.
NATIONAL ANTHEM.

We have been kindly furnished with copies of a letter addressed to the Governor by the Board of Trustees of the St. Thomas Savings Bank, and a Resolution framed in St. Thomas, and presented through members of the Colonial Council, Mr. Orville S Kean being the speaker on this occasion. Both documents relating to the currency question and expediency of action to remedy the situation. We publish them in this issue and as they explain themselves, would only refer our readers to the articles from which may be gainered the views existing in the sister island on the present financial problem which has equal importance for St. Croix.

Schnr. Ester Anita sailed from this port for St. Kitts with the following cargo of animals, exported from different estates in this island for account of Mr. J. C. Jones: 25 horses, 19 horned cattle, 1 ass, 2 sheep and some hogs.

Owing to the calmness of the weather, the vessel was towed out of the harbor.

The cine show of last night was good. The audience was fairly large and enjoyed the fine pictures

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Virgin Islands of the United States, 24th. October 1919.

To Admiral J. W. Oman, Governor of the Virgin Islands of the United States, St. Thomas.

Your Excellency:

The Trustees of the St. Thomas Savings Bank representing to a considerable extent the trade, shipping and professional men of the island beg to lay before the Government, the situation that has been created by the recent abnormal increase in the rate of exchange, and the effect that it has had, and will have on the business life of this community.

The St. Thomas Savings Bank is an institution that has been in existence for over 70 years, and is the oldest Institution of its kind in the island.

It was established and is conducted for the encouragement of thrift and industry among the laboring classes. The same spirit of benevolence that animated its founders, has been continued in its administration during these years, and the Trustees feel that in representing the serious situation created by this unprecedented lowering of the purchasing power of our currency, they are acting for the best interests of the community.

The rise in the rate of exchange, which has lowered the buying value of our dollar by almost 25%, has caused a revolution in prices and all money transactions and affects all classes in these islands. This state of affairs is likely to continue whatever efforts may be made to correct the situation, and constant friction must follow not only in business but also in the money relation of all classes of employers and employees because of the inevitable fluctuations in the value of our currency dependent as it is upon the money market of Copenhagen. hagen. A similar and as serious a situation arose in September 1892-when the coal laborers and others refused to accept Mexican Silver in payment on account of the depreciation of that coin, and a riot was only averted by the able handling of the situation by the then Policemaster, H. M. W. Fischer. K.D., and the prompt retirement of the Mexican Currency. The present state of affairs is more serious in its potentialities.

We are an American colony, supposed to be enjoying all the many advantages arising from citizenship in a great country which is now the foremost in wealth and business in the world to-day, but in the vital thing of every day material life—our currency which is the life blood of the community—we are placed by the present condition of things in the position of a foreign country. The money sovereignty, which has the greatest power for the material comfort and welfare of our people, can deal with our interests in a way entirely beyond our control.

We are all agreed as to the necessity of the change in our currency to the legal tender of the United States, the American Dollar, the money of the country *that we now* have every right to claim as our own.

The Board of Trustees of the St. Thomas Savings Bank is composed of gentlemen in quite intimate touch with all classes of the community, and the situation as above represented is the real and true one. Believing this, they respectfully represent to the Government the necessity that steps be taken immediately looking to the introduction of the American Dollar as the legal tender of our country, and the retirement of the present currency.

We sincerely hope that the change will be effected on the basis of the Mint par value of Exchange between United States Gold and the Gold coin in which the Notes of the National Bank of the Danish West Indies are redeemable, viz: Scandinavian and Danish West Indian Gold coin. In such manner that the economic conditions of the Virgin Islands be not disturbed.

The Board of Trustees in representing this matter to the Government, is confident that the changes above mentioned can be effected without infringing the rights and privileges enjoyed by the National Bank of the Danish West Indies. And the Board embraces the present occasion to voice its high appreciation of the National Bank of the Danish West Indies, an institution that from the time of its establishment in our island has been a great benefit to all classes. Its administration has always been of the kindest and most considerate character, and we wish to place on record our sincere sense of appreciation not only of the helpfulness of this fine business corporation but also of the kindness and courtesy of the present and former Managers. The Board, however, feels that the present state of affairs is unnatural and dangerous to the material welfare of the island and that it should be dealth with in the most adequate manner as soon as possible. With the conviction that the Government will realize, even more completely than we do, the need of immediate action in this matter, we beg to remain,

Most respectfully,

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

RESOLUTION

concerning the change of Currency in the Virgin Islands of the United States.

WHEREAS. The Colonial Council for St. Thomas and St. John, representing the entire Community, and having the true welfare of the people at heart, is ever desirous of promoting their material interest; and,

WHEREAS, in all crises the people look to their representatives to take such action as will ameliorate the existing hardships resultant from such crises; and.

WHEREAS, the people of the Virgin Islands are now confronted with a very grave and serious economic situation, brought about by the rate of exchange on New York being suddenly and unprecedentedly raised on the 15th. October 1919, from 5% to 28½%, thus increasing the cost of the necessaries of life, which was already high, and thereby making the burden of life heavier for all, moreso the poorer classes; and,

WHEREAS, our rate of exchange is controlled by the money market of Copenhagen, and is dependent on that